

**From:** [Maria Martinez](#)  
**To:** [R6\\_DWH\\_Info@epa.gov](mailto:R6_DWH_Info@epa.gov)  
**Subject:** Fw: DWH - Fw: Notes from - call on air data collection, review and flow  
**Date:** 05/31/2010 12:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [Gulf Air Quality Monitoring Plan Overview.Version 1.doc](#)

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DWH - Fw: Notes from - call on air data collection, review and flow

**Maria Martinez** to: Thomas Diggs, Carl Edlund, William Luthans 05/17/2010 08:18 PM

Cc: Ruben Casso

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Carl, Bill and Tom,

The information below was drafted to answer more specifically some of the questions that have been raised concerning the data.

This information will be finalized in a briefing paper by OAQPS.

Maria

----- Forwarded by Maria Martinez/R6/USEPA/US on 05/17/2010 08:16 PM -----

**From:** Bill Lamason/RTP/USEPA/US  
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**Date:** 05/17/2010 03:34 PM  
**Subject:** Notes from - call on air data collection, review and flow

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- A short paper that identifies what we are monitoring and how. It will also include timelines. Management also wants info that will explain why the "sampling" is taking so long.

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- By the timeline below, it looks like about 6-7 days for canister samples.

- We are monitoring for these compounds.
  - Real time PM2.5, ozone via fixed AirNOW sites.
  - Screening monitors for hourly PM10, total VOCs, H2S, and other non-target measurements such as CO, SO2.
  - 24 hour air samples collect in summa canister for analysis of individual VOCs; target species are benzene, toluene, xylene, ethylbenzene and naphthalene.
  - TAGA van samples for safety purposes.
  - ASPECT air craft measurements for off shore measurements.
- Here's what we have on process.

#### Real Time Fixed Network Monitors for PM2.5 and Ozone

- Provided real time through AirNOW and special AirNOW Tech website set up for the gulf coast area.
- This data is available with a few hours of collection.

#### Hourly screening monitors established by response teams

- Values are collected hourly; data are downloaded once per day by field personnel (on to lap top computer or memory stick).
- These values are loaded into SCRIBE project with a few hours of collection by field personnel and cycle to the EOC within hours; note that only a partial day of data can be completed at the end of that same day; a full day of data is only available the **next** day (the full day for May 15th is only available the evening of May 17th.)

#### VOC Species samples collected in canisters over 24 hours with samples.

- Region 6 ERT contracts handles sampling and analysis; 1 day for analysis; 2 days for data validation.
- Region 4 sends samples to their analytical laboratory in Athens, GA via overnight shipping; (1 day)
  - R4 Analysis takes 24 hours; 48 data review for QA/QC.
- Results are input into SCRIBE project within 1 day of data clearance by analytical lab; was slower initially.
- Results from SCRIBE project data flow to EOC EU contractor in the form of Excel spreadsheets within 24 hours; the EOC EU desk transmits verified spreadsheets to EOC air desk for analysis and redistribution to RO air offices and air program staff (note early in data collection, this was longer period).
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#### With the EOC.

- EOC Environmental Unit (EU) constructs "new" air data files for review - approximately 5:00 pm past few days
- EU/Air desk provides initial screen of monitoring and sampling data the following day by 11:00 am ( +18 hours)
- EU/Air desk emails screened data spreadsheets to Region 4 and 6 by 12 noon (+1 hour)
- Regions provide reviews and document validity issues (if any) by 3:00 pm (+3 hours)

- EU/Air desk notifies EU lead (Connie Haaser) to post approved data by 3:30 pm (+0.5 hour)
- EU/Air desk provides EOC Public Information Unit with revised PM10 AQI data for web by 4:00 pm (+0.5 hours)
  - EU publishes approved data files to web by approximately 7:00 pm (+3 hours)

Elapsed time from receipt of air data to web publication = 26 hours

We also have this "draft" monitoring overview we've pulled together. This may need updating.

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There is an ERT sampling plan that I haven't had time to run down.